

REMARKS

Summary of Changes Made

For clarity all pending claims have been canceled and new claims 24-45 have been added. Claims 24, 33, and 37 contain the limitations of claims 12, 15, and 18 respectively, written in fully independent form, as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 25-32 contain the limitations of claims 2-4 and 7-11, respectively, and depend from claim 24. Claims 34-36 contain the limitations of claims 2, 9, and 11, respectively, and depend from claim 33. Claims 38-41 contain the limitations of claims 2, 7, 8, 9, and 11, respectively. Claims 43-45 contain the limitations of claims 19-21, respectively. The subject matter of claims 5, 6, 12-14, 16, 22, and 23 has been canceled. Accordingly, claims 24-45 (22 claims) remain pending in the application. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b) (Fujii)

After withdrawing all previous rejections, the Examiner has newly rejected claims 1-4, 7-11, 16, 17, and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Fujii et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,473,016 ("Fujii"). The Examiner asserts that Fujii discloses polymeric compositions comprising polypropylene having a melt flow rate (MFR) of 1-20, an ethylene-alpha-olefin copolymer having a MFR of 0.1 to 2, a graft-modified polyolefin, and an organic filler which may be calcium carbonate. The proportions disclosed overlap those instantly claimed. The Examiner concludes that Fujii anticipates the claims.

The Examiner will note that new claims 24, 33, and 37 now capture the limitations of claims 12, 15, and 18, respectively, which were stated to be drawn to allowable subject matter. Each is written in fully independent form. It is noted that all remaining claims ultimately depend from one of claims 24, 33, or 37. In light of these amendments, it is believed that the rejection over Fujii is rendered moot. It is believed this amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2005.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Applicant has paid for a maximum of 23 total claims including 3 independent claims. The application currently contains 22 total claims and 3 independent claims, so no fee is believed due. Nevertheless, if there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 06-0625, our Order No. FER-15494.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP



Kenneth A. Clark
Reg. No. 32,119
Christopher J. Korff
Reg. No. 55,342

925 Euclid Avenue
Suite 700
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1405
(216) 566-9700